

THE RECORD OF THE ANGOLA WHITE-BELLIED SUNBIRD *NECTARINIA OUSTALETI*  
FROM KIGOMA IN WESTERN TANZANIA

The late C.W. Benson (1982) in his review of *Birds of East Africa*, said that he would like to see details published of the Angola White-bellied Sunbird collected at Kigoma in western Tanzania on 25 December 1961. In addition, D.C. Moyer's record of this species observed at Kasesya in southwestern Tanzania (Moyer 1983) has prompted me to record the details of the earlier bird.

It was seen in secondary growth miombo scrub on the outskirts of Kigoma township. It was first seen in flight before settling on top of a small bush where, having observed that it was not a Variable Sunbird *N. venusta* as the underparts were white, I decided to collect it. It was silent during the few moments I had it under observation. The specimen, a male, was sent to J.G. Williams at the Coryndon (now National) Museum in Nairobi on 31 December 1961; Williams confirmed the identification in his letter to me of 23 January 1962.

Despite a further visit to the area the following day, I failed to locate any other individuals of this species. As I was only on a short visit to Kigoma I am unable to comment upon its status there. However, it may well occur southwards from Kigoma to the Zambian border. Apart from the Kungwe-Mahari mountain forests, this area has been visited only rarely by ornithologists. From my experience when living at Kibondo in northwest Tanzania where I recorded a number of species previously unrecorded north of southwest Tanzania (e.g. Blue-breasted Bee-eater *Merops variegatus bangweolensis*, Black-backed Barbet *Lybius minor macclounii* and Miombo Rock Thrush *Monticola angolensis*) this may well be another instance of lack of observers.

REFERENCES

- BENSON, C.W. 1982. [Review] *Birds of East Africa*. *Ibis* 124: 362-364.
- MOYER, D.C. 1983. A record of the Angola White-bellied Sunbird *Nectarinia oustaleti* from Kasesya in southwestern Tanzania. *Scopus* 7: 52.
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- Scopus* 8: 80, September 1984      Received 4 December 1983, revised 6 March 1984